



FARM HAND DIES AFTER DRINKING INSECT POISON FROM WINE BOTTLE

Area Officers Probe Poisoning Accident

Youth Authority Escapee Captured By Store Clerk

Avalon Village Shopping Center in the Torrance area was the scene of a hectic chase Wednesday which began about 4:10 p.m. when State Highway Patrolman William Berry spotted a speeding car going north on Avalon Blvd.

The car turned onto Bayport St., with Berry in close pursuit. After driving through a filling station driveway and into the shopping center, the car finally stopped and its occupants jumped out and ran, according to Berry.

Two youths, who later were discovered to be escapees from the California Youth Authority, ran into a market and started down the aisles, blocking Berry's path with shopping baskets and merchandise as they ran. The officer continued his pursuit, however, shouting for them to halt.

Captured was Paul Wayne Peterson, 18, of Los Angeles. Clerk Ed Costin, 35, of 18704 Cairo St., Gardena was responsible for the apprehension of the youth. Other suspect made his escape.



INSPECTION TOUR—State, county, federal and city officials were on hand Thursday noon for the official unveiling of the \$155,000 municipal airport tower at the Torrance field. Tower, designed by the architectural firm of Adams, Morgan, Latham, Kypp and Wright, is one of more than 900 established throughout the United States by FAA authorities. Here, try-

ing out new equipment, are Joe Doss, president of the Airport Commission; Supervisor Burton Chace; Councilman Willys Blount, representing the council's Airport Committee; Airport Manager Jack Egan; Stew McClelland, tower chief; and Mayor Albert Isen.

An elderly man, who gulped down several ounces of what he assumed was wine, died Thursday night in Harbor General Hospital.

The wine bottle, which the dead man had found in the back of a car owned by his employer, contained a deadly insecticide.

Roy Dan Crane, 60, a farm hand, took care of a herd of cattle belonging to Frank Machado, 65, of 20534 Kenwood Ave., Tor-

rance. Investigating officers stated that Crane lived in a trailer near the herd of cattle he tended, which were kept in a field near 223rd St.

FINDS POISON

Thursday afternoon Machado came to inspect the cattle and while he was out in the field Crane apparently found the bottle in his car.

Machado told investigating deputies from the Firestone Sheriff's Station

that when he returned from the field and discovered that Crane had swallowed some of the deadly fluid he immediately rushed the doomed man to Harbor General Hospital.

Despite every effort of hospital physicians Crane died the same evening.

Hospital authorities stated that a fraction of an ounce of the insecticide would have been enough to kill a man. Crane apparently swallowed more than two ounces of the poisonous fluid.

Low Bidder On Fiat St. Project

County officials announced this week that the Miller-Bonsall Co., 259 East Lomita St., Wilmington, is the apparent low bidder for the improvement of Fiat St. in the Torrance area.

Bid submitted by the Miller-Bonsall Company was \$1,853.11, they said.

Officials said all of the bids will be carefully studied, and estimated that the contract will be awarded within a week or 10 days.

City Will Go To Voters For Final Okay On Proposed Airport Revenue Bonds

A proposal that would provide money for needed improvements at the Torrance Municipal Airport without cost to the taxpayers was outlined Thursday by Joe Doss, president of the Airport Commission.

The city will seek approval of the voters during the April elections for a re-

venue bond issue. Under the proposal bonds would be sold to provide funds for the improvement of undeveloped land on the airport. Income from these developments would provide funds that would more than pay off the bonded indebtedness.

Heading the Airport Revenue Bond Issue Committee, established to aid plans for development of the area, are co-chairman Mervin Schwab and George Powell.

Other members of the group are George Schneider, a former member of the Airport Commission; the Reverend William Schatz; and Arney Tomneson, budget supervisor for National Supply.

Open Bids For Restoration Of Local Beaches

Bids for the restoration of Clifton and Redondo beaches, which flank Torrance beach, were opened last week by county officials.

Restoration program calls for excavating, transporting and placing approximately 100,000 cubic yards of inland dune sand on eroded portions of the two beaches. Sand will be donated.

EDITORIAL . . .

Immediate Survey Is Needed on Dangerous Crenshaw Curve

Last weekend's tragic accident on the Crenshaw Curve, just north of Pacific Coast Hwy., points up a need for additional safety factors on this unusually dangerous stretch of road.

One girl died in the New Year's Eve crash and four others were hospitalized. One woman, driver of the offending car, is so badly hurt that investigating officers have not yet been able to determine the actual cause of the accident.

This particular section of highway has been the scene of dozens of minor collisions. Huge trucks, on their way to the freeways, drip dirt on the white lines in the center of the street, obscuring them.

OFF THE ROAD

On recent foggy nights drivers have been unable to see the lines and have driven off the roads and into the ditch that parallels the street.

During the rainy period water overflows from the ditch across the street and further obscures the boundaries for safe driving.

The Torrance Press urges Traffic

and Safety Commission personnel to survey this dangerous segment of Crenshaw Blvd. and attempt to solve the problem.

Automobiles turning off Pacific Coast Hwy., north on Crenshaw, are faced with an expanse of road that curves back and forth for about half a mile before it straightens out.

EFFECTIVE SIGNS

It is suggested that more effective speed limit and curve warning signs might be posted throughout this area, that new white lines might be painted on the street, and that police, patrolling in the area might be extended; all of which would increase safety factors for motorists.

At least one city councilman has specifically classified this portion of Crenshaw as "the most dangerous stretch of highway in the city of Torrance" and has indicated that he will recommend an immediate survey by the appropriate personnel.

However it is handled, it is vital that something be done to prevent a recurrence of this tragic accident.



BIRTHDAY PARTY—Officials at Little Company of Mary Hospital Wednesday celebrated the second birthday of the local facility. On hand for the celebration were dozens of officials and guests who were conducted on special tours of the hospital. Shown above with the tiered birthday cake, an exact

replica of the hospital, are Mrs. Clarence Van Lingen, vice president of the hospital auxiliary; Sister Mary Xavier; Mrs. Frank Forester, auxiliary president; and Mrs. Raymond Grinsinger, auxiliary recording secretary.

Raft Captain Is Rotary Guest

Captain DeVere Baker, captain of the famed Lehi raft which traveled from Southern California to the islands of Hawaii, was guest speaker at the regular luncheon meeting of the Hollywood Riviera Rotary meeting held at the Plush Horse restaurant Wednesday.

Baker related plans for his contemplated tour of Europe and the sea voyage on Lehi V which will take Baker and his crew around the world.

President Jack Whiting officiated, and Jack Farbar was program chairman.



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NARCOTICS HAUL—Lt. Don Cook, in charge of the Torrance Police Department's Narcotics Bureau, here shows a variety of narcotic tablets, equipment and supplies of marijuana taken in recent raids and in shakedowns of local known narcotics users.

to police metron Margaret DuVal, Bureau, recently established by order of the city council on the recommendation of Chief Percy Bennett, has put an effective crimp in the activities of drug pushers in Torrance. —Press Photo